



# Media Advisory

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Minimum desirable streamflow topic of August 8 meeting**

TOPEKA – Water right holders in the Big Blue and Little Blue river basins above Blue Rapids are encouraged to attend an informational meeting about minimum desirable streamflow administration at 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 8, at the Kloppenberg Center in Hanover.

The meeting will be hosted by Kansas Secretary of Agriculture Jamie Clover Adams and Iona Branscum, water commissioner for the division of water resources' Topeka field office. Rep. Sharon Schwartz also will attend.

During the meeting, Branscum will give a brief overview of minimum desirable streamflow law and regulations, as well as a summary of the Kansas-Nebraska Big Blue River Compact. She also will explain how the division of water resources has been working with officials in Nebraska to ensure that they adhere to the terms of the compact with regard to flows gaged on the Kansas side of the state line.

In recent weeks, some surface water right holders were ordered to stop diverting water until minimum desirable streamflow was met in the Big Blue and Little Blue rivers. Those orders were suspended temporarily when rainfall and increased flows from Nebraska brought flows above the MDS level that triggers administration. On Friday, flows on the Big Blue River fell below MDS and affected water right holders were again told to cease diverting water. Water right holders on the Little Blue River will be notified this week that they, too, must stop diverting water.

Water right holders in Marshall, Washington and Republic counties are encouraged to attend this informational meeting.